

Weather

FORECAST: Fair tonight and Thursday. Little change in temperature. Temp. Highest Yesterday 50 Lowest this Morning 40

MEDFORD MALL TRIBUNE

Use The Mail Tribune Want Ad Way Quick Results At Small Cost

Fortieth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 1945

NO. 23.

Reds In Sight Of Burning Berlin; Yanks Wheel Into Czechoslovakia

PATTONITES DRIVE TO BAR ESCAPE TOWARD HIDEOUT

Third Army Spearhead Within 100 Miles of Prague; Germans Fight Savagely.

Paris, April 18 — (U.P.) — Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's American 3rd army broke across the German border into Czechoslovakia today and pushed on to within 100 miles of Prague in a bid to cut off the last line of escape for the Nazi forces fleeing southward into the Bavarian redoubt.

Tanks and armored troop carriers of Patton's 80th infantry division cracked through the German border defenses near the village of Kaiserhammes, eight miles east of Hof, and pushed three miles into the enslaved republic against stiff opposition.

Troops Fan Out United Press War Correspondent Reynolds Packard first American reporter to enter Czechoslovakia, reported that the doughboys were fanning out southward on the main highways to Rosbach and Asche, the latter only 98 miles due west of Prague.

German tanks and infantry forces fought back savagely behind road blocks and from improvised machine gun nests set up in Czech farmhouses along the border, but Packard reported that they were being driven steadily eastward.

Gottmannsgruen, two miles inside Czechoslovakia and six miles north of Asch, was taken in the advance.

Other Forces Gain Other 3rd army forces hammered out advances of as much as 10 miles on either flank of the 90th division. The northern wing was cutting across German soil just above the Czechoslovak border and the southern flank was closing on the border from a point south of Hof.

The dramatic crossing, which cut Germany in two geographically and raised a new threat to the enemy's escape corridor at Prague, came as other American forces stormed the five key citadels of Hitler's collapsing Reich in a general offensive that German spokesmen admitted had wiped out their western front.

Patton's northern wing stormed into Chemnitz, one of the five Nazi keystones, about 50 miles northeast of the Czechoslovak border and 80-odd miles west of the oncoming red army.

PEAR MARKETING ORDER APPROVED

Sacramento, Calif., April 18. — (U.P.) — Director A. A. Brock of the department of agriculture today announced the marketing order for fresh Bartlett pears was overwhelmingly approved by producers and handlers in the third biennial referendum held during February and March.

The balloting showed producers voted for continuation of the order at a ratio of six to one while handlers favored it three to one.

The order, established in 1937, requires a minimum grade and a minimum size for fresh Bartlett pears sold in markets within the state and inspection to insure maintenance of quality standards.

AUTHOR DIVORCED Las Vegas, Nev., April 18. — (U.P.) — Rosamond Marshall, author of the best-selling novel, "Kitty," today was divorced from Earl Marshall of New York executive of the Radio Corporation of America.

COLONEL LOCKED OUT Los Angeles, April 18. — (U.P.) — Superior Judge George A. Dockweiler yesterday gave Mrs. Maria Teresa Kimberly the right to lock her bedroom door while Col. Allen Kimberly, whom she is suing for divorce, sleeps in the dining room.



The assault on Berlin from west and east reaches a crescendo of fury with Russians reported within 17 miles of capital while Americans storm Elbe Valley less than 45 miles from goal.

PETITIONS SEEK REFERENDUM ON MILK CONTROL

Salem, Ore., April 18. — (U.P.) — Preliminary referendum petitions designed to repeal the so-called "milk control" laws of the recent legislature, were filed with the secretary of state here today.

The petitions were signed by seven members of the dairy industry, most of them affiliated with the Oregon Dairy Alliance, of Portland.

The laws, (House Bills 234-370-371) provide for the compulsory pasteurization of all milk except that from certified disease-free herds, for the grading of food products and for the fixing of standards for fluid milk and cream by the department of agriculture.

The preliminary petitions now go to the attorney general who has 10 days in which to prepare ballot titles. Full petitions, bearing 14,442 signatures, must be filed by June 15 to put the measure on the 1946 general election ballot.

Half-Mast Flags Rule for 30 Days

Flags should remain at half mast for a thirty-day period, according to Fritz Nissen, formerly of Medford, now state adjutant of the American Legion, in Portland. Nissen gave the information today in reply to inquiries as to the proper display during the period of national mourning.

INCOME RETURNS CLOG COMMISSION

Salem, Ore., April 18. — (U.P.) — It will probably be another two weeks before all state income tax returns are tabulated, Earl Fisher, tax commissioner in charge of income taxes, said today.

There were nearly 50,000 unopened envelopes containing mailed-in returns yesterday, he said, following the Monday midnight deadline. About 450,000 returns were sent to taxpayers this year. Total income tax receipts may total more than \$12,000,000 this year, Fisher estimated.

250 SOVIET TANKS CHARGE NAZI LINE TO OPEN NEW HOLE

Germans Admit Armored Attack Carried Invaders Across River near Wriezen

London, April 18 — (U.P.) — Moscow said the Russians were fighting in sight of burning Berlin today, and the Nazis reported that a charge of 250 Soviet tanks opened a new breach in line through Seiversdorf, 17 miles east of the capital.

Late German broadcasts admitted that a Russian armored onslaught carried across the Alt Oder, or old course of the river, in the area southeast of Wriezen. The Russians reached Wulkow-Sieversdorf line in what Berlin called extremely violent fighting.

Marshal Ivan S. Konev's first Ukrainian army was reported to have broken into Forst, strategic base on the west bank of the Neisse river 68 miles southeast of Berlin and 62 miles northeast of Dresden.

Besiegers Gain Ernst Von Hammer, Nazi military commentator, said the Russian army besieging Berlin's defense ring scored gains in several sectors east and northeast of the city.

On the right wing of what he called the Kuestrin front the Russians threw in at least 250 tanks. The armored superiority enabled them to smash across the Alt Oder at several points. Gains were run up in the area of Freienwalde, 25 miles northeast of Berlin, and southeast of Wriezen the Soviets slugged ahead in a bloody fighting around Neutribbin, 25 miles from the city line, and Kunersdorf Heights, 23 miles from Berlin.

Climactic Phase A German DNB dispatch said the offensive had reached its "climactic phase" with nine attacking Soviet armies scoring new penetrations west of Kuestrin, on the Warsaw-Berlin superhighway and north of Wriezen, 23 miles northeast of the capital.

Berlin earlier revealed that the Red army had linked up all its Oder river bridgeheads to form a solid 45-mile front east of Berlin and had all but isolated Frankfurt, the capital's outer defense bastion.

To the south, the Germans said, other Russian forces stormed nine miles beyond the Neisse river, a tributary of the Oder, to the Niesky area, 45 miles northeast of Dresden and possibly 65 miles from a junction with the American 3rd army.

Altogether, perhaps 2,000,000 Soviet troops were on the march to the west along a 180-mile front from the Baltic port of Stettin to Goerlitz in the Sudenten foothills, the Nazis said.

2,350 BOMBERS PLASTER REICH

London, April 18 — (U.P.) — More than 2,350 American and RAF bombers and fighters attacked rail targets and German air fields throughout the Reich today continuing their reduction of the Luftwaffe's waning air strength.

The 8th air force sent our 1,350 bombers and fighters to hit rail targets and air fields in southern Germany and western Czechoslovakia.

RAF targets were the Heligoland naval base and the airfield on the island of Dune nearby. More than 1,000 bombers, escorted by an unannounced number of fighters, concentrated their attack in good weather.

SKY THE LIMIT Burbank, Cal., April 18. — (U.P.) — Hall Hibbard, Lockheed Aircraft Corporation vice president and chief engineer, predicted today that by 1955 rocket planes will be flying 100 miles high. After that, he said, the sky will be the limit.

PLANNING GROUP SETS TALK ON CITY-WAR PLANS

Measurements Necessary by Growth of City to Be Topic of Discussion Tonight.

Reports on development plans for the new city park, on a proposed addition to the city sewage disposal plant, a proposed new bridge for Jackson boulevard, and an addition to the city library building will be discussed tonight at a meeting of the city planning commission.

Mayor Clarence A. Meeker, the park committee of the council and other city officials.

Members of the planning commission are Bernard Roberts, chairman, Ben Trowbridge, J. F. Fliegel, R. S. Daniels, Eugene Thomas, Dwight Houghton and Dr. B. L. Lageson. City Recorder Woodford acts as secretary.

JUVENILES STAGE DRINKING PARTY, COPS PAY CALL

State police and sheriff's officers broke up a "wild" juvenile party at a suburban residence Sunday night, Juvenile Officer Robert M. Elder revealed today.

The officers, called by a neighbor, found nine people, mostly under 18, at the party and found evidence of considerable drinking, Elder said. Two cases of empty bottles were gathered up by the officers, it was stated.

Names of those involved were withheld pending further investigation and possible court action.

Two boys and a girl were found in a back bedroom, one couple was found in a car parked in the yard and another couple was found embracing in the shadows of the house. Beer bottles were found scattered throughout the house, the officer said.

Elder was called to the house by police and was told "40 or 50" boys and girls had attended the party during the evening and all indulged in drinking.

Elder said several parties have been held at the residence in the past, as well as other "wild" juvenile parties in Medford which have been a constant source of trouble to the juvenile office. All "wild" parties involving juveniles will be investigated and those responsible will be prosecuted in an effort to bring the trouble to an end, Elder said.

MINES RELEASED

Washington, April 18. — (U.P.) — The government has returned Anthracite mines of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal Co., to their owners after more than seven months of government operation. The mines, near Shenandoah, Pa., were taken over Aug. 23, 1944, on a presidential order following a local strike.

Table with 2 columns: American and National, listing cities and scores.

Yanks Capture Reich Celebrities



On the roster of big-name Germans in Allied hands are Prince August Wilhelm of Prussia (upper left), son of the Kaiser, and his mother (upper right), Empress Hermine, widow of Kaiser Wilhelm of World War I.

Members of the planning commission are Bernard Roberts, chairman, Ben Trowbridge, J. F. Fliegel, R. S. Daniels, Eugene Thomas, Dwight Houghton and Dr. B. L. Lageson. City Recorder Woodford acts as secretary.

SUICIDE BASES ON KYUSHU BLASTED AGAIN BY YANKS

American Superfortresses blasted Japanese suicide-plane bases on Kyushu again today, extending the crushing aerial offensive against the enemy's dwindling air power and homeland war industries.

The attack, the second within 12 hours, came on the third anniversary of Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle's historic raid on Tokyo.

More than 100 big bombers struck at the six main airfields from which Japanese suicide pilots have been attacking American warships off Okinawa. Roaring out from the Marianas early today they passed some of the Superfortresses returning from yesterday afternoon's raids.

The 21st bomber command announced that the B-29 raid early Monday had burned out an additional 5.2 square miles in Tokyo, boosting the total destroyed to 32.7 square miles—nearly a tenth of the capital's 360 square miles.

Land On Men? Tokyo announced that American troops had landed on tiny Menna island three miles off west central Okinawa in a bid to obtain more airfields. Pacific headquarters did not mention the landing but said it was, just north, had been two-thirds cleared.

On Okinawa marines battled 1,300 to 2,200 Japanese in the hills of Motobu peninsula in the northern sector. The Japanese counterattacked four times yesterday in a battle for an important hill. The marines counted 300 enemy dead after finally winning the position.

On Luzon in the Philippines American troops stormed into the outskirts of Baguio from which Filipino guerrillas rescued more than 7,000 civilians in the last three weeks.

Marrying Barber Plans 12th Trip Reno, Nev., April 18. — (U.P.) — Arthur (Frenchy) Dupont, Reno's marrying barber, will wed his 12th wife Sunday if his divorce from number 11 is completed by that time, he disclosed today.

ERNIE PYLE DIES BY JAP BULLET ON PACIFIC ISLAND

War's Greatest Correspondent Meets Death on Outskirts of Ie Near Okinawa

Washington, April 18. — (U.P.) — Ernie Pyle, a pensive little guy who became this war's greatest correspondent, has been killed in frontline action.

Secretary of Navy James Forrestal announced that the 44-year-old Scripps-Howard columnist was killed instantly by a Japanese machine gun bullet on Ie, a little island off Okinawa.

With Foot Soldiers He was killed, Forrestal said, in the company of "the foot soldiers, the men for whom he had the greatest admiration."

It was because he always sought the company of the foot soldier that Pyle became known as the fox-hole reporter.

(Dispatches from Guam said Pyle was killed on the outskirts of the town of Ie at 10:15 a.m. today, Guam time — Tuesday night, U. S. time.)

The famed correspondent was shot three times through the temple while under Japanese machine gun fire, Blue Network Correspondent Jack Hooley broadcast from Ie Shima.

(Pyle was headed for the front line fighting with Lt. Col. Joseph Coolidge of Arkansas when a sudden burst of fire sent them scrambling from their jeep into a ditch beside a narrow coral road, Hooley said.)

After a few minutes they peered over the edge of the ditch and the gun rattled again. Coolidge ducked back to find Pyle dead beside him.)

President Truman received the news in an already bereaved White House while conferring with Forrestal, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, and Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius Jr.

The president immediately wrote out a statement in which he said the nation, sorrowing for its late president, was "saddened again by the death of Ernie Pyle."

"He deserves," the president added, "the gratitude of all his countrymen."

Forrestal subsequently issued a formal announcement at the navy. He revealed that Pyle was standing at the time beside the regimental commanding officer of headquarters troops, 77th division of the army.

The secretary's statement said: "He was killed instantly by Japanese gun fire while standing beside the regimental commanding officer of headquarters troops, 77th division, U. S. army. At the time of his death he was with the foot soldiers, the men for whom he had the greatest admiration."

Pyle's father, W. C. Pyle, lives in Dana, Ind. His wife lives in Albuquerque, N. M.

CHAPLIN TO SEEK ANOTHER TRIAL

Hollywood, April 18. — (U.P.) — Charlie Chaplin will appeal the verdict that declared him the father of baby Carol Ann Barry, his attorney announced today.

Lloyd Wright, Chaplin's attorney for most of the many years the veteran British comedian has been in Hollywood, said the appeal from yesterday's jury verdict would be taken on "legal grounds."

"We feel that it was simply impossible to get a fair jury here," Wright added.

A verdict, naming Chaplin the father of Carol Ann Barry was returned late yesterday by a superior court jury which voted 11 to one against the British-born comic.

CIGARETTE FATAL Salt Lake City, April 18. — (U.P.) — Mrs. Cristina Scheanker, 67-year-old Salt Lake City woman, died of suffocation today in a fire started when she apparently fell asleep while smoking a cigarette, firemen reported.

CALL OFF STRIKE San Francisco, April 18. — (U.P.) — A strike by 4,000 employees of the Pacific Gas & Electric Co., scheduled for tomorrow, has been called off, Charles W. Mason, International Representative of the AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers announced today.

Note From Russia Hints Settlement Big Three Dispute

Washington, April 18. — (U.P.) — A note from Soviet Russia brought nearer to settlement of deadlock today the Big Three dispute over Polish representation at the San Francisco security conference.

Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., told his news conference that the United States had received a new note from Russia on the ticklish question. He did not, however, discuss the note's contents. He said it had just arrived and that he had not had time to read it.

Meanwhile, the secretary said, the eight-member U. S. delegation to San Francisco has reached agreement "on all major points."

POPE IN PLEA FOR FAIR, JUST PEACE

Rome, April 18. — (U.P.) — Pope Pius XII today placed the spiritual weight of the Vatican behind the San Francisco conference with a special encyclical epistle warning that both victors and vanquished will face a new war unless a fair and just peace organization is established.

The Pope addressed his message to the Episcopacy throughout the world, inviting all to increase their prayers in order that God may grant peace "and not only peace but a peace organization based on justice and fairness."

"Otherwise," said the message, "some day both the vanquished and the conquerors will bear the grievous consequences of a new war."

HAITIAN NEWSPAPERS OUT OF PAPER SOON

Port-Au-Prince, Haiti, April 18. — (U.P.) — Haitian newspapers have announced that unless relief is obtained from a newsprint shortage by Friday, they will be forced to discontinue publication. Due to the shortage, the newspapers already have been reduced to four-page size.

GANDHI FEARS AXIS MAY BE HUMILIATED

Bombay, April 18. — (U.P.) — Mohandas K. Gandhi said in a statement today that India's complete freedom from all foreign control is an indispensable preliminary to peace.

The statement regarding the San Francisco conference said that Germany and Japan should not be humiliated.

FEATURE CHIEF DIES

New Rochelle, N. Y., April 18. — (U.P.) — Joseph V. Connolly, 50, president of Kin, Features Syndicate, the International News Service and International News Photos, died early today of heart attack.